

19-
~~Top Secret~~

YUGOSLAVIA: Jovic Comes Up Empty

President Jovic yesterday told the Federal Assembly talks between republic leaders on Yugoslavia's future were going nowhere and accused Croatia and Slovenia of breaking up the country. He said bilateral negotiations between the individual republics—particularly Croatia and Serbia—are the only way to resolve the crisis and avoid civil war. He also said the planned referendums to decide if Yugoslavia should remain a federation or break into sovereign states would not provide a solution. Jovic implicitly attacked Prime Minister Markovic's economic reform program for causing industrial unrest. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jovic's failure to offer specific proposals reflects the federal leadership's increasing impotence. His dismissal of the referendums suggests they are unlikely to take place as scheduled. Jovic—who leaves office next month—appears increasingly resigned to some change in the Yugoslav federation. [REDACTED]

~~Top Secret~~

26 April 1991